

JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL  
FOR AN EXCEPTION TO FAIR OPPORTUNITY

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
Office of Acquisition and Logistics  
Technology Acquisition Center  
260 Industrial Way West  
Eatontown, NJ 07724

2. Description of Action:

The proposed action is for a Firm Fixed Price (FFP) Delivery Order (DO) issued under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV Government Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC), for the procurement of CA ERwin Data Modeler software and maintenance support. The period of performance for delivery of the software under this DO will be thirty (30) days after award of the DO. The period of performance for the support services under this DO will be a period of twelve (12) months.

3. Description of Supplies or Services:

The VA Office of Information and Technology's (OIT) pharmacy re-engineering architects (PRE) are adding a prescription drug database to the VA's Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA). VistA is a collection of integrated software modules used throughout the VA medical system. Adding a prescription drug database to VistA will help prevent inadvertently prescribing to patients drugs that negatively interact. The ERwin software tool will provide data modeling (data requirements analysis and database design) of prescription drug data in a standard, consistent, predictable manner for use in VistA. This is the only available software that can perform data modeling functions for the OIT and Software Design Engineer (SDE) approved hardware. Only CA, Inc. or an authorized reseller can provide CA ERwin Data Modeler v8 software and maintenance support. The total estimated price of the proposed action is \$479,000.

4. Statutory Authority:

The statutory authority permitting this exception to fair opportunity is Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 16.505(b)(2)(i)(B), entitled "only one awardee is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services ordered are unique or highly specialized."

5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above:

Based on extensive market research, as described in paragraph eight (8) of this document, it was determined that limited competition is viable among authorized resellers for this brand name item. The VA requires a data modeling tool to add a prescription drug database to VistA. The data in the prescription drug database must be modeled in a manner that is consistent with the data modeling currently

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used at the VA to allow VA systems to effectively and efficiently utilize the new prescription drug database. The VA utilized CA ERwin Data Modeler software in the PRE alpha, beta, and production test systems. Selecting a different software product would require that all of the data models be re-engineered into the new tool's format, resulting in a significant loss of time to the Government. Each model would have to be exported into a generic data definition language (DDL), and then imported into the new tool. As DDL is an open standard, all of the ERwin-specific information would be lost and have to be recreated. CA ERwin Data Modeler software is the only product that meets the unique and OIT and SDE Technical Reference Model (TRM) approved software list to perform data modeling of customized information systems. The VA's continued use of CA ERwin Data Modeler software is required to model prescription drug data in a standard, consistent, predictable manner to maintain compatibility within VA's VistA system. Failure to procure CA ERwin Data Modeler software would prevent the PRE team from performing data modeling for PRE production software, which could compromise the VA's ability to effectively use the information found in prescription drug database and potentially prescribe to patients drugs that negatively interact.

### 6. Efforts to Obtain Competition:

Market research was conducted, the details of which are in the market research section of this document. Competition is anticipated for the required brand name item and service. Furthermore, in accordance with FAR 5.3 the award will be synopsisized on the Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOps) Page. In addition, this Justification and Approval (J&A) will be made publicly available on the FedBizOps Page.

### 7. Actions to Increase Competition:

Although the Government is limiting competition as a result of specifying a CA, Inc. brand name, there are authorized resellers of these products on the NASA SEWP IV contract. Competition for this requirement among these vendors is anticipated. Additionally, this Justification and Approval and the Request for Quote will be submitted to all four (4) NASA SEWP IV Contract Groups in order to fully notify all interested parties and obtain price competition. Any proposals received will be evaluated. Finally, the Government's technical experts will continue to perform market research to determine if there are any potential sources that will enable future requirements to be pursued using full and open competition.

### 8. Market Research:

Market Research was conducted on August 11, 2011 utilizing the NASA SEWP IV Manufacturer Lookup and Product Verification tools. It was determined that twenty-six (26) current contract holders provide CA, Inc. products, including six (6) authorized resellers of CA ERwin Data Modeler software. In addition, the Government performed Market Research by issuing Requests for Information in August, 2011 on the NASA SEWP IV website and the following (2) two companies



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responded: Merlin (an 8(a), Veteran Owned Small Business) and MicroTech, LLC (an 8(a), Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business). Both companies are capable of providing the required software. Therefore, limited competition is expected for this proposed action.

9. Other Facts:


The Government's technical experts looked at software from Sybase and Embacadero Technologies in August, 2011, however this software was not included on the TRM approved software list and the use of this software would not ensure consistency of data.

10. Technical and Requirements Certification: *I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in this justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

James J. Weaver

Date: 8/15/11

IT Project Manager

Signature: 

11. Fair and Reasonable Cost Determination: I hereby determine that the anticipated price to the Government for this contract action will be fair and reasonable based on the following: 1) Contracts awarded on NASA SEWP have already been determined to be fair and reasonable. As there are two (2) potential vendors on NASA SEWP, price competition is anticipated; and 2) the successful quote will be compared to the Independent Government Cost Estimate.

Kendra A. Miller

Date: 8/12/11

Procuring Contracting Officer

Signature: 

12. Procuring Contracting Officer Certification: I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. As this contract action does not exceed \$650,000, the certification below required by FAR 16.505(b)(2)(ii)(C)(1) serves as approval.

Kendra A. Miller

Date: 8/12/11

Procuring Contracting Officer

Signature: 